



St Mary's Catholic Primary School

Newsletter - Friday 27th September 2024

Message to parents from the Head of School

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to Issue 3 of our school Newsletter!

We are nearing the end of the fourth week of the Autumn Term. And what a wet week it has been so far!

Our new after school Clubs have started and are very popular. We hope the children enjoy them and gain all sorts of new skills.

It has been great to visit all the classes and see children engaged and enthusiastic about learning. Our behaviour in general and behaviour for learning is really good across the school. We are very proud of all our pupils!

Conscious of health and safety concerns, we have changed the home time arrangements for Y1 and Y2. The children are now picked up at the KS1 gate in front of the building. This has worked well this week and we received positive feedback from parents.

If you have any questions or concerns about this, please speak to the office or a member of the SLT.

Today, Friday 27th September staff at St Mary's are hosting the Big Macmillan Coffee Morning, as part of the school community's commitment to the Catholic Social Teaching.

All proceeds from the event will be passed to the MacMillan Nurses Charity. So far **we have raised £70** but the fundraising is still going! We will let you the final tally soon.

With the very best wishes
Magdalena Tusting

Catholic Life and Mission of the school

One of Pope Francis encyclicals is called Laudato Si. Its important message talks about the understanding that healthy society is closely linked to the healthy environment; it also explores a relationship between care for creation and care for the poor.

Pope Francis' encyclical underscores the moral need for urgent action on climate change in order to left the planet's most vulnerable populations, protect development around the world and invite responsible growth.

The seven goals of Laudato Si are: the Cry for Earth, the Cry for the Poor, Ecological Economics, Simple Lifestyles, Ecological Education, Ecological Spirituality and Community Involvement and Participation.

Our School Value for this half term is **Responsibility** and the matching Catholic Social Teaching Principle is Stewardship – **Caring for the Earth, our common home (based on the messages in 'Laudato Si')**.

This term we will be exploring this theme in detail. Teaching and learning on the theme will be included in all the learning across the curriculum.

The children will be thinking about how each and every one of us can show responsibility in caring for and protecting our planet and others less fortunate than us.



Invitation to the special lunch

To celebrate the start of the Black History Month, we will have a special **Caribbean lunch** on **Thursday 3rd October**.

All pupils are invited to have the special, themed lunch on that day, including those pupils on packed lunches.

Please, let your child know about the special lunch. Could you also let the office know if your child will join the school for the special school lunch on that day.

We hope the children will enjoy the Caribbean lunch.



Genes for Jeans

Last Friday we held a fundraising event for the national Genes for Jeans Charity. We had a MUFTY day for pupils and staff, with everyone wearing jeans as the sign of support for this Charity and its important work.



We raised £93

Thank you everyone who contributed to this fundraising charitable event. Your support is greatly appreciated.

Important Parent's Information

Parents Information

Uniform

Thank you to the vast majority of our pupils who wear their full school uniform. We have noticed that quite a few children do not have their ties whilst at school. Please, note that the school tie is part of our school uniform. Could you, please ensure that your child wears the tie to school every day,

Pupils should be wearing **school shoes** when they are not wearing trainers as part of their PE uniform. Quite a few pupils are wearing colourful trainers, which are **not** part of the uniform, and we ask that you kindly check with your child and make sure they wear full school uniform, which includes black shoes.

Please note that if for any reason your child is not in full school uniform or full PE kit, we expect a note from parents to explain why this is the case.

Jewellery and Expensive items

As part of our school uniform, the children are allowed to wear small studs. Any long, dangling earrings might be the cause of accidents and therefore are not allowed.

If children wear necklaces with any religious symbols, please, make sure that your child is aware that these need to be tucked under the clothing for health and safety reasons.

As you are aware, we advise that children do not bring any expensive items to school, as we **cannot take responsibility for loss or damage**. Only children in Y5 and Y6, who have permission to walk to and from school on their own, can bring phones to school. However, they have to hand them in at the gate and pick them up from their teachers at the end of the day. During school hours the phones are stored in the safe.

Pandora bracelets as well as other bracelets and necklaces or "smart" watches are **not allowed** as they can create a health and safety hazard. In addition, they are often expensive or hold sentimental value.

Additionally, as "smart" watches are connected to other devices via the Internet, they are therefore **not allowed at school for safeguarding reasons**. This is in line with government and local authority guidelines and we ask parents to help us ensure that these guidelines are followed.

If you have any questions about any of the information above, please contact the office to make an appointment with a member of Senior Leadership Team.

Thank you for your support with these important issues.

Attendance

Congratulations to all the pupils who achieved 100% attendance this year! Our overall attendance for this half term is **91.00%**, which is **very low**. Our school target is **96.00%**.

We will continue meeting some parents in the new academic year to draw their attention to their children's absence. There is a strong correlation between school attendance and pupil outcomes. Please ensure your child is at school unless they are ill.

Holiday during term time

The government policy is that holidays during term times are not permitted, therefore the school **cannot authorise** any absence due to holidays during term times. If you take your child/ren out of school for a holiday during term time, they will be referred to the Local Authority if necessary. Please note this for any plans you are making for the new academic year 2024-25. The Department for Education expects parents/carers to organise holidays outside of the school term dates. Your child/ren's learning will suffer by taking them out of school and it may result in disruptions to the learning of others. We have already referred some families to the local authority who will issue a penalty notice.

Contacts

It is a requirement that the school has a minimum of **2 emergency telephone contact numbers** for your child. We need to be able to contact you at all times. Our admin team, endeavour to update our data systems with your details termly. This is essential for the wellbeing of your children and we need your help to ensure that you are contactable at all times. If there are any changes for 2024-25, please ensure you contact the school office at the beginning of the new academic year.

School Admission Open for Nursery/Reception-2025 and all our other year groups!

St Mary's Catholic Primary School is a caring and welcoming community where every child and every family are valued. Our School Ethos and Values are at the centre of everything we do. Our children are friendly, kind, caring and supportive of one another. We are very proud of them!

Everyone is always welcome to have a tour around the school and find out what we are about. Please, make an appointment and come to see us!



Key Stage 2 Class update

Year 3

Year 3 have really been enjoying PE so far this term! We have been learning about passing to each other and catching (sending and receiving), which has been not only fun but a great way to build our team work abilities!



It has also been great having some time to play some games with coach at the end of PE lessons.

Year 4

Year 4 had a wonderful time at the Science Museum on Tuesday this week! They explored the Wonderlab and found out about Materials, Forces, Electricity and many more topics. They watched demonstrations given by the Science museum 'Explainers' on Space and Electricity.



Towards the end of the day, they attended 'The Wonder Show' where different scientific demonstrations took place. They learnt about sound as vibrations using the visual of fire, how a glow stick is made and the material that is used to absorb liquid in nappies!

Year 5

Year 5 had a fantastic visit to Phoenix Farm on Thursday this week. The rain mostly held off and we had fun planting cress seeds (and bringing them home) and riding on the smoothie bike to make a delicious smoothie to drink.



We also had a tour of the farm and saw various fruits at early stages of development. Even more excitingly, we came across quite a few snails.

Year 6

Year 6 have had an excellent week of learning where they have focused on consolidating their knowledge of place value as well as negative numbers.

We have also had some excellent discussions as a class regarding the instigation of World War One and many of the underlying issues across continents that could have resulted in such a seismic event.

In English, the children have been writing a detailed description of a character in War Horse and exploring new ideas in relation to sentence structure and appropriate vocabulary usage.

School



Breakfast Club & Tea Time Club

Breakfast Club runs from 8am and will cost £4 per child, per day for children from Reception to Y6. Before your child/ren attends Breakfast Club, please ensure you book the sessions and make the required payments first.!

Tea-Time will be offered at St Mary's school up until Friday 20th September from 3.30 to 5.30pm. There after wraparound care will change and be delivered by a new provider from 3.30pm to 6pm in the evening. All parents have been provided with all the required information regarding the new providers.

If you would like your child/ren to continue to attend Tea-Time Club at St Mary's until Friday 20th September, please ensure you book the sessions and make payments, before your child attends this club.

Booking is essential. This is not a drop-in service and parents will be rung and asked to collect their child if no booking has been made.

This provision is only available to children from Reception to Year 6.

www.schoolgateway.com

Change of Wraparound Care Provision

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

East Row North Kensington London W10 5AW

Telephone: 020 8969 0321 Fax: 020 8964 3122

E-mail: info@st-marys.rbkc.sch.uk

Website: www.st-marys.rbkc.sch.uk



Executive Headteacher: Ms Geraldine Hampton

Tuesday 10th September 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

Wraparound Care

As you know, the Government has made it an ambition to ensure that all parents and carers of primary school-aged children who need it should be able to access term time childcare in their local area from 8am-6pm.

At the moment, we provide Breakfast Club from 8am every morning and Tea Time Club at St Mary's until 5.30pm.

Our Breakfast Club will continue to run at St Mary's as it does now.

The Local Authority has created a new hub for after school care, which will provide care until 6pm for children from Nursery to Year 6. This will be run by a company called Aktiva and will be based at Ark Brunel. **From 23rd September, St Mary's will be part of that provision.**

Please see attached a welcome letter from Aktiva, setting out their service. The letter includes details of a face-to-face meeting at St Charles and an online meeting for parents to find out more and ask questions.

The walking bus will operate to take children to Ark Brunel.

Kind regards,

Magdalena Tusting
Head of School



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to Aktiva Camps After School Club at St Mary's Catholic Primary School hosted at the Ark Brunel Hub! We are delighted to partner with the school to offer outstanding extended school services, and we look forward to creating a safe, fun, and friendly environment for your children.

Club Information: Our After School Club will run from the end of the school day until 6:00 PM. The children will be collected from their classes at the end of the school day and brought over to the Ark Brunel hub by walking bus by 3.40pm where they will be registered into our after-school club. There are 2 sessions available to book - Early session 3.30pm-4.30pm and a full session 3.30pm-6pm After school club service is hosted at the Ark Brunel school premises, in the main hall, and pick-up for parents will be from Ark Brunel main reception door. An Aktiva sign with our contact number will be available on the door. Please call if a staff member is not at the door to collect your child.

After School Club: At the end of the school day, your children will be collected from their teachers and brought over to the Aktiva setting at Ark Brunel via a walking bus provided by the school. They will be grouped by key stage and offered a substantial snack, including fruit, vegetables, dips, sandwiches, wraps and bagels. We encourage children to help plan our menus and choose their favourite items. Each session includes a variety of activities: tennis, football, bench ball, and arts and crafts. Depending on the number of participants, children will be grouped by key stage or year group.

Contact Information: Aktiva's Ark Brunel contact number: 07776657491 - only available during service (3.30pm - 6pm). For all queries regarding bookings please email bookings@aktivacamps.com or call our parent enquiry number on **0203 551 8909**.

Booking Aktiva Services:

Annual Pass: Our online booking system lets you select the days you need each week, reserving a spot for your child for the whole school year. We only charge for the days your child attends. There are 190 school days in the year. Our fee is calculated based on the days you choose, then spread evenly over 11 months for easy payments.

Single Sessions: Book until 1 PM on the same day for After School Club. This flexibility allows parents to use our services as needed. Places are subject to availability and strict cutoffs.

Booking and Pricing: Please visit www.aktivacamps.com to register yourself and your child/children and select the required service.

Monthly Prices

After School Club	1 day/week	2 day/week	3 day/week	4 day/week	5 day/week	Single session bookings
Full session – 3.30pm - 6pm	£42	£84	£126	£168	£210	£14
Early session 3.30pm - 4.30pm	£19	£38	£57	£76	£95	£8.70

Price per session annual pass – Full Session - £12

Early Session - £6.70

Aktiva accepts childcare vouchers and payment from the Government Tax Free Childcare scheme. We also support parents to access Universal Credits and Student Finance financial support.

If you have any queries, please email bookings@aktivacamps.com. Our phone lines are busy, so email us your query with a phone number, and we will get back to you. The booking system for the 2024/2025 academic year is now live.

Cancellation Policy:

- **Annual Pass:** One month written notice is required to cancel/reduce days.
- **Single Session Booking:** Two weeks written notice is required to cancel or change days. All cancellation requests will be held as credit on your account.

Please send cancellation notices to bookings@aktivacamps.com.

Medication: Aktiva staff do not have access to the school medical room. We require essential medication such as inhalers or EpiPens to accept your children into the service.

More Information: Aktiva will like to give parents the opportunity to find out more information about the services available. On 17th September, we will be at St Mary's from 3.00pm to answer any questions you may have. A zoom meeting has also been scheduled for the 17th September at 6.30pm for parents who are not able to attend in person. The details are

Topic: Aktiva Services @ St Mary's

Time: Sep 17, 2024 06:30 PM

<https://us05web.zoom.us/j/81504426704?pwd=ZWQH6A4JYPz31tWaOly9yYl0sz4v0B.1>

Meeting ID: 815 0442 6704

Passcode: qi0q1E



Star of the Term

Congratulations to all the pupils who have received **Star of the Week Certificate** - Friday 27th September 2024

Star of the Term:

EYFS - Myla

Y1 - Pippa

Y2 - Zema

Y3 - Teddie

Y4 - Cali

Y5 - Zamarah

Y6 - Naz

Star Readers

Y1- Jasmine

Y2 - Azahrye

Y3 - Kareema

Y4 - Sofia

Y5 - Nicholas

Y6- Emily

'Handwriters' of the week

Y1- Kai

Y2 - Renai-Mae

Y3 - **Savannah**

Y4 - **Neveah**

Y5 - **Adrien**

Y6 - **Andie**

Congratulations to all the Stars of the Week, Star Readers and Writers!

We would like to share some important dates for the first half term with you.

We will also be adding some more dates and will share them with you soon, so please keep checking the Newsletter and the Parents' Information Board on the front gate.

Upcoming Dates

PE Days:

Please remember that children can come to school in their PE kits on PE days. Please refer to our guidance on school uniform and ensure your child has the correct PE kit. If for any reason they are not able to come in the correct kit, we require an email or phone call from home to explain the circumstances.

Tuesdays - **Years 1, 2, 3 & 5**

Wednesdays - **Years 2, 3, 4 & 6**

Fridays - **Nursery, Reception & Year 6**

Class Assemblies Autumn Term

Y6 Class Assembly Thursday 3rd October 9.05am

Y5 Class Assembly Thursday 10th October 9.05am

Y4 Class Assembly Thursday 17th October 9.05am

Y1 Class Assembly Thursday 7th November 9.05am

Y3 Class Assembly Thursday 14th November 9.05am

Y2 Class Assembly Thursday 21st November 9.05am

Month of October: **Black History Month**

Thursday 10th October: **World Mental Health Day**

Parent Consultation Meetings:

Monday 21st October 3.45pm – 6.00pm

Tuesday 22nd October 2.30pm – 5.00pm (Please, note, school closes for children at 2.15pm – please ensure your child is picked up on time)

Thursday 24th October: Autumn Ball:

· EYFS 2.00pm – 3.00pm

· KS1 3.45pm – 4.45pm

· KS2 4.45 – 5.45pm

Half term holiday: Monday 28th October to Friday 1st November

Term Dates 2024-2025

Term Dates 2024 – 2025

Autumn Term – 2024

First Half Term

Staff Training – Mon 2nd & Tues 3rd September - *School Closed*

First Day of School – Wednesday 4th September

Last Day of School – Friday 25th October

Half Term – Monday 28th – Friday 1st November

Second Half Term

First Day of School – Monday 4th November

Last Day of School – Friday 20th December - **1.30pm** - *School Closed*

Christmas Holiday – Monday 23rd December – Friday 3rd January 2025

Spring Term - 2025

First Half Term

Staff Training – Monday 6th January – *School Closed*

First Day of School – Tuesday 7th January

Last Day of School – Friday 14th February

Half Term – Monday 17th – Friday 21st February

Second Half Term

First Day of School – Monday 24th February

Last Day of School – Friday 4th April - **1.30pm** - *School Closed*

Easter Holiday – Monday 7th April – Monday 21st April

Summer Term – 2025

First Half Term

Staff Training – Tuesday 22nd April – *School Closed*

First Day of School – Wednesday 23rd April

Bank Holiday – Monday 5th May

Last Day of School – Friday 23rd May

Half Term – Monday 26th May – Friday 30th May

Second Half Term

First Day of School – Monday 2nd June

Staff Training – Monday 30th June – *School Closed*

Last Day of School – Tuesday 22nd July - **1.30pm** - *School Closed*

FACEBOOK

INSTAGRAM

TWITTER

St Mary's Catholic Primary School

Email: info@st-marys.rbkc.sch.uk

Website: <https://www.st-marys.rbkc.sch.uk/>

Location: [East Row, London W10 5AW, UK](#)

Phone: 020 8969 0321



Charles Mary

Charles is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters

